



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE STATE'S ATTORNEY FOR HOWARD COUNTY

For Immediate Release:

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Laurel Man Convicted in December 2016 Double Shooting

A 20-year-old Laurel man has been convicted in the December 2016 double shooting that resulted in the death of a 20-year-old Columbia man. Davon Philip Jones, of the 9200 block of Bridle Path Lane, was found guilty on all charges, Friday afternoon, by a Howard County jury following a five-day trial.

On the afternoon of December 18, 2016, police were dispatched to the 9400 block of Woodsong Court in Laurel for a report of gunshots fired. Officers found Kaiyon Stanfield, 20, sitting in the front passenger seat of a compact sedan, suffering from multiple gunshots wounds. Nearby, they located his cousin, Khalil Stanfield, 21, also suffering from gunshot wounds. Kaiyon Stanfield was airlifted to the University of Maryland Shock Trauma Center and was subsequently pronounced dead. Khalil Stanfield was also transported to Shock Trauma.

Khalil Stanfield testified that he drove his rental car to the Laurel townhome community parking lot to sell a quarter-pound of marijuana to their assailants who were seated in the rear seat. Stanfield affixed individual photos of the cousins, along with their assailants onto a drawing of the vehicle. Assistant State's Attorney Danielle Duclaux asked, "Who were you selling drugs, to?" He replied that it was Jones and pointed at him from the witness stand.

Stanfield testified that after smoking samples of the marijuana and bargaining over the sale price, he heard a gunshot and noticed that his cousin's head "jerked" as he sat in the passenger seat next to him. A homeowner's surveillance video of the parking lot collaborated Stanfield's testimony that after the shot was fired he bolted from the driver's seat, sustaining two shots in the back. The video also depicted two suspects exiting the vehicle and running in the opposite direction. Another townhome-mounted surveillance camera, located on Daly Court, captured images of Khalil Stanfield running up to a house, and banging on the door for help.

Prosecutors reinforced witness testimony by introducing nearly 200 pieces of evidence including DNA, fingerprints and palmprints, along with cell phone images and texts linking Jones and his co-defendant, Derrick Charles Johnson, to the shootings. Johnson, 20, of the 3900 block of Warner Avenue, Hyattsville, will be tried on February 20, 2018.

Jones' defense attorney contended throughout the trial that police and prosecutors could not place his client in the vehicle and spotlighted that police never recovered any of the firearms used in the double shooting. Rebutting defense closing arguments that the evidence and testimony were circumstantial, Assistant State's Attorney Maurice C. Frazier stated, "This is not coincidence; this is providence. This is the evidence."

The jury deliberated for 90 minutes before returning guilty verdicts on counts of first-degree murder, attempted first-degree murder, assault, robbery and armed robbery, conspiracy and firearms charges. Judge Richard S. Bernhardt ordered a pre-sentence investigation and set a sentencing date of March 15, 2018. Jones faces a maximum of two life sentences.

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